

APPENDIX F

STANDARD CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES

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1. The contractor shall limit the movement of crews and equipment to the ROW, including access routes. The contractor shall limit movement in the ROW to minimize damage to residential yards, grazing land, crops, orchards, and property, and shall avoid marring the lands. The contractor shall coordinate with the landowners to avoid impacting the normal function of irrigation devices during project construction and operation.
2. When weather and ground conditions permit, the contractor shall obliterate all construction caused deep ruts that are hazardous to farming operations and to the movement of equipment. Such ruts shall be leveled, filled and graded, or otherwise eliminated in an approved manner. Ruts, scars and compacted soils in hay meadow, alfalfa fields, pasture, and cultivated productive lands shall have the soil loosened and leveled by scarifying harrowing, disking, or other approved methods. Damage to ditches, tile drains, terraces, roads, and other features of the land shall be corrected. At the end of each construction season and before final acceptance of the work in these agricultural areas, all ruts shall be obliterated, and all trails and areas that are hard-packed as a result of construction operations shall be loosened and leveled. The land and facilities shall be restored as nearly as practicable to the original condition.
3. Water runoff bars or small terraces shall be constructed across all ROW trails on hillsides to prevent water erosion and to facilitate natural revegetation on the trails.
4. The contractor shall comply with all Federal, state, and local environmental laws, orders and regulations. Prior to construction, all supervisory construction personnel will be instructed on the protection of cultural and ecological resources. To assist in this effort, the construction contract will address: a) Federal and state laws regarding antiquities and plants and wildlife, including collection and removal; and b) the importance of these resources and the purpose and necessity of protecting them.
5. The contractor shall exercise care to preserve the natural landscape and shall conduct his construction operations so as to prevent any unnecessary destruction, scarring or defacing of the natural surroundings in the vicinity of the work. Except where clearing is required from permanent works, approved construction roads, or excavation operations, vegetation shall be preserved and shall be protected from damage by the contractor's construction operations and equipment.
6. On completion of the work, all work areas except access trails shall be scarified or left in a condition that will facilitate natural revegetation, provide for proper drainage, and prevent erosion. All destruction, scarring, damage, or defacing of the landscape resulting from the contractor's operations shall be repaired by the contractor.

7. Construction trails not required for maintenance access shall be restored to the original contour and made impassable to vehicular traffic. The surfaces of such construction trails shall be scarified as needed to provide a condition that will facilitate natural revegetation, provide for proper drainage, and prevent erosion.
8. Construction staging areas shall be located and arranged in a manner to preserve trees and vegetation to the maximum practicable extent. On abandonment, all storage and construction materials and debris shall be removed from the site. The area shall be regraded, as required, so that all surfaces drain naturally, blend with the natural terrain, and are left in a condition that will facilitate natural revegetation, provide for proper drainage, and prevent erosion.
9. Borrow pits shall be so excavated that water will not collect and stand therein. Before being abandoned, the sides of borrow pits shall be brought to stable slopes, with slope intersections shaped to carry the natural contour of adjacent, undisturbed terrain into the pit or borrow area, giving a natural appearance. Waste piles shall be shaped to provide a natural appearance.
10. Construction activities shall be performed by methods that prevent entrance or accidental spillage of solid matter, contaminants, debris, and other objectionable pollutants and wastes into flowing streams or dry water courses, lakes, and underground water sources. Such pollutants and wastes include, but are not restricted to refuse, garbage, cement, sanitary waste, industrial waste, radioactive substances, oil, and other petroleum products, aggregate processing tailings, mineral salts, and thermal pollution.
11. Dewatering work for structure foundations or earthwork operations adjacent to, or encroaching on, streams or watercourses will not be performed without prior approval from appropriate state agencies.
12. Excavated material or other construction materials shall not be stockpiled or deposited near or on stream banks, lake shorelines, or other water course perimeters where they can be washed away by high water or storm runoff or can in any way encroach upon the actual shore itself.
13. Waste waters from construction operations shall not enter streams, water courses, or other surface waters without such turbidity control measures as settling ponds, gravel-filter entrapment dikes, approved flocculating processes that are not harmful to fish, recirculation systems for washing of aggregates, or other approved methods. Any such waste waters discharged into surface waters shall be essentially free of settleable material. Settleable material is defined as that material that will settle from the water by gravity during a 1-hour quiescent period.
14. The contractor shall utilize such practicable methods and devices as are reasonably available to control, prevent, and otherwise minimize atmospheric emissions or discharges of air contaminants.

15. Equipment and vehicles that show excessive emissions or discharges of exhaust gases due to poor engine adjustments, or other inefficient operating conditions, shall not be operated until corrective repairs or adjustments are made.
16. Burning or burying of waste materials on the ROW or at the construction site will not be allowed. The contractor shall remove all waste materials from the construction area. All materials resulting from the contractor's clearing operations shall be removed from the ROW.
17. The contractor shall make all necessary provisions in conformance with safety requirements for maintaining the flow of public traffic and shall conduct his construction operations so as to offer the least possible obstruction and inconvenience to the public traffic.
18. Platte River/Western will apply necessary mitigation to eliminate problems of induced currents and voltages onto conductive objects sharing a ROW, to the mutual satisfaction of the parties involved. Platte River/Western will install fence grounds on all fences that cross or are parallel to the proposed line.
19. The contractor will span riparian areas located along the ROW and avoid physical disturbance to riparian vegetation. Equipment and vehicles will not cross riparian areas on the ROW during construction and operation activities. Existing bridges or fords will be used to access the ROW on either side of riparian areas.
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